

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended). A method for obtaining, on the basis of a characteristic map, a value for at least one control parameter of an installation, the method which comprises:

defining support points for the control parameter, each of the support points providing a value for the control parameter, across a range of operational parameters within a characteristic map in accordance with operational parameters of the installation;

dividing the range of operational parameters covered in the characteristic map into first and second subdomains each comprising a plurality of the support points; and

storing the characteristic map in a control device that controls the installation;

obtaining using the control device to obtain a value for the control parameter by extrapolating when a boundary of the first subdomain is reached before the

value for the control parameter is obtained by accessing support points of the second subdomain; and

wherein the control device uses the control parameter to control the installation.

Claim 9 (currently amended). The method according to claim 8, ~~which comprises obtaining values for~~ wherein the control parameter is a control parameter of an internal combustion engine.

Claim 10 (previously presented). The method according to claim 8, which comprises, when a given distance is reached from a last support point of the first subdomain, obtaining the value by extrapolating from support points of the second subdomain.

Claim 11 (currently amended). The method according to claim 8, which comprises ~~allocating~~ using the control device to allocate a discrete operating mode of the installation to each subdomain.

Claim 12 (previously presented). The method according to claim 11, wherein the installation is an internal combustion engine having fuel injected into combustion chambers, and the method comprises defining the discrete operating modes as differing in a number of injections per work cycle.

Claim 13 (previously presented). The method according to claim 12, wherein the characteristic map contains values of injection parameters in dependence on a speed and a load of the internal combustion engine.

Claim 14 (previously presented). The method according to claim 13, wherein the injection parameters include at least one of an injection quantity and an injection angle.

Claim 15 (currently amended). The method according to claim 11, which comprises changing using the control device to change an operating mode of the installation when a given operating state is reached.